

either directly from the surface of a dog's nose (see, e.g., FIGS. 4 and 5) or from a first surface such as the surface of a glass window (e.g., patio glass windows see FIGS. 16 and 17) on which has been deposited at least one dog nose smudge 300 (see, e.g., a glass window surface as shown in, e.g., FIG. 14), which after coating with dog nose powder 240 to provide at least one nose powder coated dog nose smudge 305, the at least one nose powder coated dog nose smudge 305 are transferred to surface 260 (see FIGS. 16 and 17). The surface 260 can be any suitable surface providing it is capable of receiving and displaying at least one nose powder coated dog nose smudge 305.

[0031] The top window layer 180 defines a top surface 190 (see FIG. 6). Desired indicia 340 and/or images 360 can be disposed as desired onto the top surface 190 of the top window layer 180 (see, e.g., FIG. 8). The top window layer 180 defines a window aperture 280, the perimeter of which is defined by the top surface layer 190. The window aperture 280 can be any suitable shape such as a rectangular shape as shown, for example, in FIG. 6. Alternatively, the window aperture 280 can have an overall oval shape. Other overall shapes for the window aperture 280 include, but are not limited to: regular polygonal shape, irregular polygonal shape.

[0032] The container 200 contains an amount of dog nose powder 240. The dog nose powder 240 plays a similar role to finger print powder of the kind used by finger print experts who use finger print powder to highlight human finger prints at crime scenes. The dog nose powder 240 is applied to at least one dog nose smudge 300 on a first surface to provide at least one nose powder coated dog nose smudge 305 that is then transferred to a second surface. In the preferred embodiment the second surface is surface 260 atop dog smudge display layer 140.

[0033] The dog nose powder 240 can be any suitable composition or material. For example, the dog nose powder 240 can be chalk powder (e.g., a pastel chalk powder) of any desired color so long as the color is sufficient to stand out relative to the background color of the dog smudge display layer 140. For example, a piece of chalk 410 (shown in, e.g., FIG. 10) can be used in place of container 200 and powder 240. The brush 220 is an optional part of kit 100—a person can use at least one cotton swab (e.g., Q-tips®) or at least one cotton ball (shown as part number “380” in FIG. 10).

[0034] The dog nose powder 240 can be made up of a mixture of soot collected from a candle flame mixed with starch powder, e.g., one part candle soot by volume for one part starch powder by volume. Alternatively the soot can be collected as a by-product from combustion such as wood, paper, coal, oil or coke combustion.

[0035] The dog nose powder 240 can be a mixture of talc and silica. Alternatively, the dog nose powder 240 can be a mixture of talc and silica in combination with a coloring agent such as a fluorescent dye, e.g., fluorescent naphthalimide dye. For example, the dog nose powder can be a mixture of about 25 to about 50% by weight talc and about 25 to about 60% by weight silica, and the coloring agent can be present in the dog nose powder in an amount ranging from about 10 to about 50% by weight of the total dog nose powder composition.

[0036] Referring now to the remaining Figures of which FIG. 2 shows a brush 220 with a bristle end 230 being dabbed on dog nose powder 240 held in container 200. The dog nose powder 240 is transferred to the bristle end 230 of brush 220 and thence used to powder coat at least one dog smudge 300

previously deposited by a playful dog on, for example, a window surface WS; applying dog nose powder 240 to at least one dog nose smudge 300 provides a corresponding set of at least one nose powder coated dog smudges 305 (see, e.g., FIG. 15A), which are then transferred to surface 260 of layer 140 (see, e.g., FIGS. 16 and 17).

[0037] Alternatively, the dog nose powder 240 is used to directly coat a dog's nose as shown in FIG. 3 and dog smudges transferred to surface 260 of layer 140 (FIGS. 4 and 5). However, it is preferred to apply dog nose powder 240 to at least one dog nose smudge 300 previously deposited by a dog directly onto a window surface WS as shown (see FIG. 15A).

[0038] Referring to FIGS. 4 and 5, at least one dog nose smudge 300 is shown being transferred to surface 260 of dog smudge display layer 140. More specifically, separate parts of the surface 260 are pressed lightly against the nose powder covered dog nose DN to provide at least one nose powder coated dog nose smudge 305 on the surface 260.

[0039] It will be understood that if a dog shows signs of distress or discomfort the brush 220 can instead be used to powder dog smudges 300 on a non-animal surface such as a glass window, an exemplar of which is shown in FIG. 12, and the powdered dog smudges transferred from the glass window surface WS to the surface 260 of dog smudge display layer 140.

[0040] Referring to FIG. 6, the layers 120, 140, 160 and 180 are arranged as shown; which when pressed or layered on top of each other provide a dog nose smudge laminate 320. In more detail, the dog smudge display layer 140 defines a surface 260 and further defines a bottom surface 150. The base layer 120 defines a top surface 130. The surfaces 130 and 150 are brought together, the transparent protective layer 160 placed over the top surface 260 and the top window layer 180 placed over the transparent protective layer 160 taking care to ensure that the at least one nose powder coated dog nose smudge 305 are visible through window aperture 280.

[0041] FIG. 7 shows an exemplar dog nose smudge laminate 320, which can be further enhanced as a decorative art form by adding indicia 340 and/or images 360 such as dog (e.g., puppy images). For example, indicia 340 and/or images 360 can be disposed as desired onto the top surface 190 of the top window layer 180 (see FIG. 8), and the indicia 340 can include the name of a pet dog (see FIG. 9 where the name “Sparky” is used as an exemplar dog name). Alternatively, puppy image stickers can be used from third party sources such as from a “puppy fun” stickers strip supplied by Frances Meyer®, Inc., a division of Chartpak, Inc. located at Leeds, Mass. 01053, Tel #: 413-584-5446.

[0042] The base layer 120 and/or top window layer 180 can be made of a magnetic material to facilitate attachment of the dog nose smudge laminate 320 in its completed form (e.g., as shown in FIG. 7) to, for example, a kitchen Bridge. For example, the base layer 120 and/or top window layer 180 can be made, wholly or at least in part, of a rubbery synthetic material in which magnetic ferrite particles have been embedded by a process as described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,621,369 (issued to Gardner et al. on Apr. 15, 1997). U.S. Pat. No. 5,621,369 is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

[0043] In one aspect of the invention the top window layer 180 in kit 100 (e.g., see FIG. 1) and in kit 400 (see FIG. 10) includes a plurality of magnetic ferrite particles embedded therein. In one aspect of the invention the base layer 120 includes a plurality of magnetic ferrite particles embedded therein.